



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 07553.0031

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Hiroki OKA) Group Art Unit: 1763
Application No.: 10/070,902) Examiner: S. MacArthur
Filed: June 26, 2002)
For: VACUUM PROCESSING DEVICE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b)(4), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), along with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to

present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

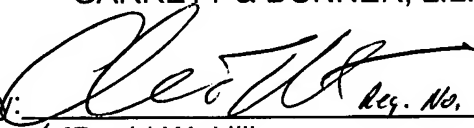
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 19, 2004

By:  *Reg. No. 48,216*
for David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Atty. Docket No. 07553.0031 | Appln. No. 10/070,902 |
| Applicant Hiroki OKA | |
| Filing Date June 26, 2002 | Group: S. MacArthur |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-------|-----------|----------------------------|
| | 5,769,184 | 6/1998 | Hofmeister | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Document Number | Publication Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation Yes or No |
|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| JP 01-126474 | 5/18/1989 | Japan | | | Abstract |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| Examiner | Date Considered |
| *Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |
| Form PTO 1449 | Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce |